Dear Judy, Jim, nd family, 2/6/79

My bad typing will probably be a bit worse. I'm trying out a very compact portable of a friend who no longer uses it. I've had it cleaned and overhauled. All strange to me, and no margin settings, I mean no tabs. So I'll skip trying to paragraph. ...Going through my desk earlier today I found this envelope I thought I'd mailed months ago, with the record I found in the Dallas Oswald file. ...I've thought of you often for several reasons, Judy and your coming joy, my desire to be there for a while and what I come accross while working. ...Right now I'd like to be able to set a target for about the time there is less worry about burdening Judy. That will be after the committee reports whatever it adds to the junk it has turned out. I think they must report by the end of next month. ...My wife does tax work, which means until mid-April. Would not want to leave her alone when she's busy. ...I also want to know more about my medical situation before making a trip. I may have had some kind of setback just before and after Xmas. Out of the blue I passed out the Saturday before Xmas and there is no medical explanation. Since then I appear to be more aware of the artery problem that had slowed me down some by the time I was there and much more after returning. Some things, like walking, I'm as before. But otherthings are different. This time last year I was getting pretty good and chopping and shovelling ice. I had to do it because out long lane was so iced with it. So much that by the time I finished the job, the end of March, when it was warm and had thawed often, there was still a six inch thickness at the very end. In a way I'm in better shape for the weather and I've had little ice because of it. But the little effort expended that way made me unsteady and sort of weak. ...I got a couple of well-paying consultancies so I got myself some labor-saving equipment. One is a good snow blower. Our lane is the length of a football field but I can clear it or did in 15 minutes. But the machine merely clogs on slush and comes close to doing this on real wet snow. The two times we had slush - and it has snowed often - I was able to get some help. However, I was also able to do a fair amount of this myself. It was after what we didn't get off the last time froze and after thawing gave me runoff water that also froze that I discovered this reduced capavity. I also feel it if I carry as many as four good-size fireplace chunks of green hardwood. ... Another great gadget is a 2-cycle power scythe, really a glorified grass whip type of thing with two blades, one for brush and one for small trees. Once the chiggers were gone, about mid*september, I started recapturing the land that had gone wild once I was taken ill. Everyone was saying that I had it looking better than it ever did. Got all the brush trimmed out and piled and carried the larger pieces up to the house where I made small firewood out of them. I cut about a cord into length with a machete, which was great for the arms. I have found myself wondering if it would be better if I could get more natural exercise with them. But with the ground covered with the slippery stuff I don't dare work on it. ...The snow also prevented my using the third machine, a brush and leaf chipper. Not a big one but supposed to take trimmings up to an inch thick and chew them up. That, of course, will speed their return to nature. ...I'm a bit uneasy about the weather report not for the 4 inches or more of snow but for the rain report, rain atop the snow as the fronts move around. ... If the weather is too tricky or I don't figure and time it right we'll be iced in again because the ground is fozen pretty deep. I have in mind keeping at it to keep the amount of snow that can freeze after rain to the minimum. ...The motor on that machine is a good one and an entirely new type to me. I've never dreamed there could be a spark when it turns over so slowly. Almost barely. At first I thought this is because it is so heavy and I weak. But Igave it another pull. It went no faster but it spit. I cut the choke by half and on the next pull, never getting it to turn any faster, it took right off. And has been no problem no matter how cold. Always that way. Never heard of such a thing and never heard of any motors other than the lawnmower type...Self-propelled so all I've got to do is keep from slipping or going too fast for my footing...Oh, well, when we have March storms they usually thaw pretty fast and only three more weeks of February ...In other ways I'm even busier, with more records to read and more FOIA work all the time. They are fighting real hard, as I do in return. And I've forced an awful lot of stuff out. The bronson film the Morning

News gave so much attention to came to light through one of my suits. I've turned leads on three others over to others. One is stills and may not be of the right time. It or they have been examined. I'm anxious to hear of the other two....I also got some records that support the Bronson film and I've sent copies of them to those who might be able to do something with them. ...oreof the nasty stuff the...b. m. uf c ured, including about me. ...Aside fro wha Jim tolo me about Mary being ill + heard she had been in the hospital for a while. Hope it all straightens out okay. ...Last night after I went to bed the phone got me up twice so with the snow possibility I'd better not be late getting into bed tonight. I had been meaning to write but I've really stayed very busy. Seeing this envelope told me I wanted to before bed. ...Hope you are all well and that everything goes just beautifully. Best wishes,